cost effective manner -- and that's not our small businesses. This is smart for our air quality and best for our business community too."

The North Carolina Chamber and the Manufacturers and Chemical Industry Council of North Carolina expressed support for the governor's action. The North Carolina Sierra Club and Environmental Defense Fund also support the executive order.

"Environmental Defense Fund commends Governor Perdue for decisive action today that gives regulatory certainty to North Carolina businesses and provides health and environmental protections for everyone who lives and works in our state," said Jane Preyer, director of the North Carolina regional office for Environmental Defense Fund.

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